
Ronald J. Possanza



Executive Assistant Director Atlantic Operations Naval Criminal Investigative Service

Mr. Ronald J. Possanza is currently the Executive Assistant Director (EAD) for Atlantic Operations. He is responsible for the management and technical direction of seven field offices and numerous subordinate elements, with oversight for all investigative, counterintelligence (CI), and counterterrorism (CT) activities within the Atlantic area of responsibility (AOR). He directs and manages an annual operating budget in excess of \$53 million.

Mr. Possanza was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in August 2008 and has 31 years of Federal Service.

The Director of NCIS selected Special Agent Possanza as the first Senior NCIS Representative to Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces, Norfolk, Virginia in October 2006.

Mr. Possanza assumed duties as the Special Agent in Charge (SAC), NCIS Europe Field Office, Naples, Italy, from June 2004 to October 2006, in direct support of Commander, Naval Forces Europe (CNE-C6F) and the European Command. In this capacity, he served as the primary advisor and principal SAC for the EAD Atlantic Operations on all CT, CI and criminal investigative issues and initiatives in the European Command (EUCOM) AOR. The Europe Field Office encompasses 91 countries in Europe, Africa, and parts of the Middle East.

From January 2003 to June 2004, Special Agent Possanza served as the primary advisor and principle Chief to the Director of Intelligence, Joint Chiefs of Staff (J2), Pentagon, Washington, D.C. on all joint CI matters in support of the joint war-fighter. During this timeframe, he ranked in the top 2% of all CI officers and public servants in the DIA Office of CI, J2CI, and the DOD CI Community.

Mr. Possanza served as the Senior NCIS CI Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition at the Pentagon from July 2002 through January 2003. He was responsible for coordinating CI support to Acquisition Category I-IV programs in the DON.

Mr. Possanza served as the Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) for Foreign Counterintelligence and Combating Terrorism (CbT) at the NCIS Europe Field Office from July 2000 to July 2002. He directly supervised 75 special agents and 11 professional and support personnel, and provided oversight for all CI and CbT operations and investigations in direct support of CNE-Commander Sixth Fleet, Commander Fleet Air Mediterranean, and Commander Submarine Group Eight.

Beginning in 1988, Special Agent Possanza served in distinguished assignments as the Senior NCIS Representative to the American Embassy Rome and the Senior Advisor to the U.S. Secret Service (USSS), Intelligence Division during the historic meeting between President Bush and Premier Gorbachev in Malta in 1989.

Mr. Possanza began his career as a special agent with NCIS in 1981, after serving with the United States Capitol Police, Washington, D.C., for two years. His assignments include the NCIS Resident Agency, Norfolk, Naval Air Station, Virginia (1981-1982); Sigonella, Sicily (1982-1985); and NCISRA New London, Connecticut (1985-1988), where he was assigned as the senior special agent responsible for CI programs in support of COMSUBGRU TWO.

Mr. Possanza graduated Cum Laude from the University of Scranton in 1978 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology and Law Enforcement and a minor in Philosophy and Religious Studies. He attended the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, where he earned a Master of Science degree in National Security and Strategic Studies, graduating with distinction in 1998.

In May 2004, he accepted, on behalf of DIA, the DoD CI Agency Achievement Award for Joint Counterintelligence (CI) support to Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), while assigned as the Chief, Joint Staff Support Branch, J2, Joint Staff. Mr. Possanza received the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) Certificate of Excellence in 2003 and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Certificate of Excellence in 2001. In 1991, he received a Meritorious Unit Commendation for Service throughout European and Central Command AORs during the Persian Gulf War.

Mr. Possanza was awarded Special Agent Credentials in 1981 and holds TS/SCI (with polygraph) security clearances. His professional affiliations include the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association.